

Message Text

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NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 CU-04
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FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8434
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMCONSUL DURBAN
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 PRETORIA 4107

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, SF
SUBJECT: PROSPECTS FOR CHANGE: VIEWS OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE
SOUTH AFRICAN BUREAU OF RACIAL AFFAIRS

REF: PRETORIA 3919,

1. SUMMARY: DR. CHRIS JOOSTE, DIRECTOR OF THE PRO-SAG
SOUTH AFRICAN BUREAU OF RACIL AFFAIRS, BELIEVES THAT
UNDER THE CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES THE NATIONAL PARTY IS
NOW CONSIDERING, THERE WOULD NOT ONLY BE SEPARATE PRIME
MINISTERS AND PARLIAMENTS FOR WHITES, COLOREDS AND
INDIANS, BUT ALSO SEPARATE BUREAUCRACIES, INCLUDING
POLICE. THE AUTHORITY OF THE COLORED AND INDIAN
PARLIAMENTS, JOOSTE SAID, WOULD BE GEOGRAPHICALLY
DEFINED. THE AUTHORITY OF THE JOINT DECISION-MAKING
EXECUTIVE BODY AND THE MANNER OF SELECTION OF THE STATE
PRESIDENT, ACCORDING TO JOOSTE, HAVE NOT YET BEEN DECIDED.
JOOSTE BELIEVES THAT ELECTIONS FOR THE NEW COLORED AND
INDIAN PARLIAMENTS WILL NOT BE HELD UNTIL 1980. JOOSTE SEES
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CONSOLIDATION OF THE HOMELANDS AS THE KEY AREA OF REFORM
AND BELIEVES THIS ISSUE WILL BE THE NEXT SUBJECT THE NATIONAL
PARTY WILL ADDRESS. END SUMMARY.

2. IN A CONVERSATION OF AUGUST 12 WITH EMBASSY POLCON,
DR. CHRIS JOOSTE, DIRECTOR OF THE AFRIKAANS-DOMINATED AND
PRO-SAG SOUTH AFRICAN BUREAU OF RACIAL AFFAIRS (SABRA),

DESCRIBED HIS VIEWS ON THE PROSPECTS FOR CHANGE IN SOUTH AFRICA.

3. JOOSTE SAID THAT SABRA'S MEMBERSHIP IS MADE UP OF 1500 PROFESSORS IN SEVEN SOUTH AFRICAN UNIVERSITIES. EACH CAMPUS HAS A COMMITTEE FOR ACADEMIC ACTION AND THESE BODIES ELECT A CENTRAL COMMITTEE. THE PURPOSE OF THE ORGANIZATION, HE SAID, WAS TO STIMULATE AND SUBSIDIZE RESEARCH ON RACIAL QUESTIONS AND TO PROMOTE RACIAL HARMONY. TWO CURRENT STUDIES, FOR EXAMPLE, INVOLVE HOMELAND CONSOLIDATION AND FACTORS AFFECTING THE MORALE OF BLACKS. BOTH GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS MAKE USE OF SABRA'S PRODUCTS, JOOSTE SAID. GOVERNMENT MINISTRIES FREQUENTLY ASK FOR RESEARCH OR BACKGROUND PAPERS FROM THE ORGANIZATION.

4. JOOSTE SAID THAT THE CURRENT CABINET COMMITTEE STUDYING CHANGES IN THE WESTMINISTER SYSTEM HAD ASKED SABRA TO CONTRIBUTE PAPERS AND VIEWS ON THE SUBJECT. HE DID NOT KNOW, HOWEVER, WHAT IMPACT SABRA'S CONTRIBUTIONS HAD MADE. THE CHANGES THE CABINET WOULD PROPOSE, JOOSTE BELIEVED, WOULD BE CONSISTENT WITH BASIC NATIONAL PARTY POLICY.

5. JOOSTE SAID THERE WOULD PROBABLY BE THREE PRIME MINISTERS AS WELL AS THREE PARLIAMENTS. UNLIKE W.F. DE KLERK, (REFTEL) HE DID NOT SEE HOW THERE COULD BE A SINGLE BUREAUCRACY INDEPENDENT OF THE THREE PARLIAMENTS. HE BELIEVED THAT EVENTUALLY EACH OF THE THREE RACIAL

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GROUPS WOULD HAVE TO HAVE THEIR OWN BUREAUCRACY WITH THE EXCEPTION OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE. JOOSTE EVEN FORESAW THREE SEPARATE POST AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS MINISTRIES AS WELL AS SEPARATE POLICE AND JUDICIAL SYSTEMS IN THE DIFFERENT AREA. THIS WOULD MEAN THAT THERE WOULD HAVE TO BE A GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THEIR AUTHORITY. AS FAR AS COLOREDS IN THE CAPE PROVINCE WERE CONCERNED, A GEOGRAPHIC DELINEATION WOULD INVOLVE APPROXIMATELY TWO MILLION HECTARES INCLUDING BOTH COLORED URBAN AREAS AND LARGE RURAL TRACTS IN THE NORTH OF THE PROVINCE. JOOSTE AGREED WITH DE KLERK THAT SUCH MEASURES AS THE MARRIAGE AND IMMORALITY ACTS WOULD BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE INDIVIDUAL PARLIAMENTS. THE INDIAN AND COLORED GOVERNMENTS, HE SAID, WOULD FINANCE THEIR OPERATIONS THROUGH THEIR OWN LOCAL TAXES AND GRANTS FROM THE WHITE GOVERNMENT.

6. JOOSTE PREDICTED THAT THE REFORMS WOULD DO AWAY WITH THE SENATE AND IN ITS STEAD POSSIBLY CREATE A NEW CONSULTATIVE BODY. THIS QUESTION, HE SAID, HAD NOT YET BEEN DECIDED. HE WAS CERTAIN, HOWEVER, THAT THERE WOULD BE A SMALLER EXECUTIVE BODY REPRESENTING

A DEVELOPMENT OF THE CURRENT INTER-CABINET COUNCIL. A KEY ISSUE WHICH, AS FAR AS JOOSTE KNEW, WAS ALSO STILL UNDECIDED, WAS THE EXACT AUTHORITY OF THIS BODY. HE WAS UNEASY WITH THE TERM "JOINT DECISION-MAKING" BUT SAID THAT MOST QUESTIONS OF MUTUAL CONCERN WOULD HAVE TO BE DECIDED THROUGH CONSENSUS. SOME ISSUES, HOWEVER, POSSIBLY COULD BE SUBJECT TO MAJORITY VOTE. THERE WAS STILL A DEBATE ON THIS QUESTION. WHEN A CONSENSUS WAS REQUIRED BUT NOT REACHED, THE STATE PRESIDENT, JOOSTE SAID, WOULD HAVE THE DETERMINING VOICE.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 PRETORIA 4107

7. THE MANNER OF SELECTION OF THE STATE PRESIDENT, JOOSTE SAID, WAS ANOTHER KEY ISSUE. ELECTION OF THE STATE PRESIDENT BY THE JOINT BODY ON THE BASIS OF POPULATION PROPORTION WAS POSSIBLE, HE BELIEVED, BUT NOT LIKELY. ALTHOUGH THE WHITES WOULD HAVE A MAJORITY IN THE COUNCIL FOR THE NEAR FUTURE, EVENTUALLY INDIANS AND COLOREDS WOULD OUTNUMBER THE WHITES. HE DID NOT THINK THE PARTY WOULD ACCEPT A PROCEDURE THAT WOULD THEORETICALLY MAKE A COLORED PRESIDENT POSSIBLE. CONSEQUENTLY, JOOSTE SAID, THE STATE PRESIDENT WOULD PROBABLY BE ELECTED BY THE WHITE PARLIAMENT, AND HE IN TURN WOULD APPOINT COUNTERPARTS FOR THE COLOREDS AND THE INDIANS. THE FOREIGN AND DEFENSE MINISTERS, JOOSTE SAID, WOULD ALSO HAVE TO BE WHITES. HE DID NOT SEE ANY NATIONAL MINISTRY UNDER A COLORED AS THIS WOULD VIOLATE BASIC PRINCIPLES.

8. UNLIKE DE KLERK, JOOSTE DID NOT BELIEVE ELECTIONS FOR THE COLORED AND INDIAN PARLIAMENTS WOULD BE HELD IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES. THE PRESENT COLORED AND INDIAN COUNCILS, HE SAID, VERY LIKELY
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WOULD ASSUME THE FUNCTIONS AND TITLES OF THE NEW BODIES UNTIL 1980.

9. THE MAIN CONCERN ABOUT THE PROPOSED CHANGES, JOOSTE SAID, WAS THE REACTION OF THE COLORED COMMUNITY. SUNNY LEON, HE PREDICTED, WOULD CERTAINLY DENOUNCE THE NEW DISPENSATION. JOOSTE WAS HOPEFUL, HOWEVER, THAT NOT ONLY THE FEDERAL PARTY BUT INDEPENDENTS AND MANY OF LEON'S FOLLOWERS WOULD SUPPORT THE NEW SCHEME. JOOSTE THOUGHT IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT THE GOVERNMENT PRESENT THE NEW STRUCTURE OF GOVERNMENT IN ITS ENTIRETY AND NOT PARCEL OUT CHANGES PIECEMEAL. THERE WERE SOME IN THE PARTY, HE THOUGHT, WHO WOULD OPT FOR THE LATTER COURSE.

10. JOOSTE SAID THE PARTY WAS NOT CONSIDERING ANY OTHER BASIC CHANGES AT THIS TIME. THE NEXT QUESTION THE PARTY WOULD HAVE TO DEAL WITH, ACCORDING TO JOOSTE, WAS THAT OF CONSOLIDATION OF THE HOMELANDS. JOOSTE PERSONALLY BELIEVED THIS WAS THE MOST PRESSING PROBLEM IN SA AND THE KEY TO SOLVING THE URBAN BLACK CRISIS. THE HOMELANDS, HE SAID, MUST BE MADE REALISTIC ALTERNATIVES. TO DO THIS THEY MUST BE EXPANDED WHICH MEANS INCLUDING EXTENSIVE WHITE AREAS AND TOWNS. THE GOVERNMENT MUST ALSO BUILD MANY NEW TOWNS IN THE EXPANDED HOMELANDS TO TAKE CARE OF THE 18 MILLION ADDITIONAL BLACKS IN THE POPULATION BY THE END OF THE CENTURY. JOOSTE FORESAW THE EVENTUAL "DISPLACEMENT" OF SOWETO AS COLOREDS MOVED INTO AREAS SOUTH OF JOHANNESBURG AND TOOK OVER JOBS IN INDUSTRY. THE BLACKS, HE SAID, WOULD EVENTUALLY MOVE OUT OF SOWETO TO THE NEW TOWNS IN THE EXPANDED HOMELANDS. IT WAS ESSENTIAL, JOOSTE BELIEVED, FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO DEVELOP INDUSTRIES IN THE HOMELAND AREAS. THIS POLICY, JOOSTE SAID, WOULD REQUIRE AN ENORMOUS COMMITMENT OF RESOURCES, BUT HIS MAIN GOAL WAS TO PROMOTE ITS ACCEPTANCE. "WE MUST MAKE THE
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COMMITMENT AND MOVE NOW," HE SAID, "OR WE WILL BE DESTROYED." JOOSTE BELIEVED THAT ANOTHER CABINET COMMITTEE WOULD BE ESTABLISHED NEXT YEAR TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE CONSOLIDATION OF HOMELANDS.

11. COMMENT: AMONG THOSE OUTSIDE THE PARTY ELITE, JOOSTE PROBABLY HAS GOOD INSIGHT INTO THE NEW "DISPENSATION" WHICH THE NP IS EXPECTED TO REVEAL AT ITS FORTHCOMING PARLIAMENTARY CAUCUS AND PROVINCIAL CONGRESSES. ALTHOUGH SABRA CLAIMS TO REPRESENT THE BULK OF AFRIKANER PROFESSORS, JOOSTE APPEARS MORE CONSERVATIVE THAN THE FRONT RANK OF AFRIKANER ACADEMICS. EMBASSY AND CONSULATE OFFICERS HAVE TALKED TO A NUMBER OF THE LATTER AND WE WILL BE REPORTING THEIR VIEWS SEPARATELY.
BOWDLER

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Message Attributes

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